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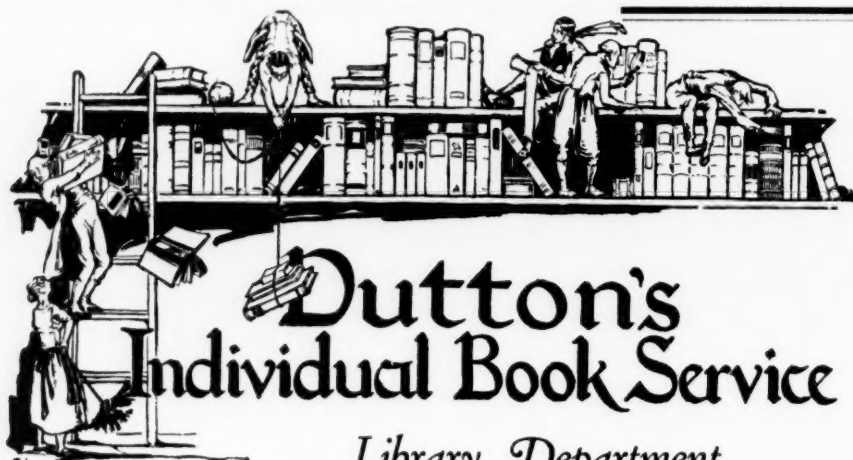
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Library Book Outlook

We are still at the peak of the spring publishing-season, and only about half of the interesting books published during the past fortnight can be mentioned in this limited space.

The fiction and travel books lead, in point of number.

Edith Wharton's *The Mother's Recompense* (Appleton, \$2), Sheila Kaye-Smith's *The George and the Crown* (Dutton, \$2), Rabindranath Tagore's *Gora* (Macmillan, \$3), and Archibald Marshall's *The Mystery of Redmarsh Farm* (Dodd-Mead, \$2), can be bought by all libraries without scruple. *The Mother's Recompense* is a story of modern New York. It is perhaps the supreme achievement, thus far, of America's foremost woman novelist. *The George and the Crown* is a dramatic story of struggle and passion among the primitive folk of the English countryside. It is typical of the work of this acknowledged dean of the younger women novelists of England. *Gora* introduces us to family-life among Hindus of the strict Brahmin caste. It is a splendid counterfoil to Forster's recent 'A Passage to India.' *The Mystery of Red Marsh* is Mr. Marshall's first venture into the field of detective-story writing.

Also worthy of consideration are *Sea-Horses*, by F. Brett Young (Knopf, \$2.50), a story of the sea and of Africa, by the steadily-advancing author of 'Woodsmoke'; *Alan*, by E. F. Benson (Doran, \$2), a study of a distinguished but selfish English novelist; *The House of Menerdue*, by A. C. Benson (Doubleday-Page, \$2), a quiet story of peaceful folk, who find true happiness in honest renunciation; *Myrtle* by Stephen Hudson (Knopf, \$2.50), which will be wanted only by those who have approved of the author's previous novels in the series; *The Little Dark Man*, and other Russian Sketches, by Ernest Poole (Macmillan, \$2), four tales of simple life in little Russian villages; and *Monsieur Ripois and Nemesis*, by Louis Hémon (Macmillan, \$2), a poignant story of the awakening of a caddish Frenchman.

In lighter vein, there are Ian Hay's *Paid in Full* (Houghton-Mifflin, \$2), the story of a rascal and his regeneration; and E. J. Rath's *The Brains of the Family* (Watt, \$2) and *Too Much Efficiency* (Watt, \$2), two typically Rathian domestic comedies.

New mystery-stories include *The Mill of Many Windows*, by J. S. Fletcher (Doran, \$2); *Face-Cards*, by Carolyn Wells (Putnam, \$2); *The Neglected Clue*, by Isabel Ostrander (McBride, \$2); and *The Dream-Detective*, by Sax Rohmer (Doubleday-Page, \$2).

There is a new, typical Hulbert Footner story of the wilds of Alaska in his *The Wild Bird* (Doran, \$2).

New series (the second) are available of *Great Pirate Stories* (Brentano's, \$2) and of *Great Sea-Stories* (Brentano's, \$2), both again compiled by Joseph L. French.

The travel-books comprise *Six Years in the Malay Jungle*, by Carveth Wells (919.1, Doubleday-Page, \$3), experiences of a civil-engineer, illustrated; *In Mexican Waters*, by George Hugh Banning (917.2, Lauriat, \$4.50), a motor-yacht cruise to little-known islands off the west coast, splendidly illustrated; *The Arctic Forests*, by Michael H. Mason (919.8, Doran, \$6), picturing, with pen and camera, the wilds of the Porcupine and Mackenzie River regions, in Canada; *The Adventure of Wrangel Island*, by Vilhjalmur Stefansson (917.98, Macmillan, \$6), the illustrated account of the author's attempt, with three others, to start an Arctic British colony, involving an international question that is still unsettled; *Regarding the French*, by Moma Clarke (914.4, McBride, \$2.50), in which the heart of the real Paris is revealed in merry essays; *The Speckled Domes*, by Gerard Shelley (914.7, Scribner, \$4), an Englishman's impressions of Russian life and character during the revolution; *We Visit Old Inns*, by Mary H. Northend (917.4, Small-Maynard, \$3), describing and illustrating famous old New England hostleries; and *Trails and Summits of the White Mountains* (917.42, Houghton-Mifflin, \$2.50), describing nineteen good climbs, by W. C. O'Kane. (This last book is bound in limp cloth.)

There is also a new volume of Carpenter's *World Travels* series, entitled *Through the Philippines and Hawaii* (919.14, Doubleday-Page, \$4).

Those who are in need of new guide-books to Italy or Normandy will find up-to-date ones in Clara E. Laughlin's *So You're Going to Italy* (914.5, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), a pocket-size volume, on the same lines as her previous guides; and Findlay Muirhead's *Normandy* (914.4, Macmillan, \$3), in the excellent *Blue Guides* series.

A rigorous sifting of the new books in other departments leaves us with Washington Irving, *Esquire*, by George S. Hellman (Knopf, \$4), which is subtitled, 'Ambassador at Large from the New World to the Old'; *A Vanished Arcadia*, by R. B. Cunningham Graham (989, Dial Press, \$3), being some account of the Jesuits in Paraguay, from 1607 to 1767; *Divorce in America*, under Church and State, by Walker Gwynne (173, Macmillan, \$2), supplying the urgent need for a convenient handbook on this momentous problem; *Collected Poems of H. D.*, by Hilda Doolittle Aldington (821, Boni and Liveright, \$2.50); *One-Act Plays*, for Stage and Study (808.2, French, \$3), containing twenty-five contemporary plays, American, English, and Irish; *The School for Ambassadors and other Essays*, by J. J. Jusserand (844, Putnam, \$3.50); and *Mere Mortals*, by Charles MacLaurin (828, Doran, \$2.50), in which an Australian physician dissects some historical figures.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

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Library Progress in Oregon

By CORNELIA MARVIN, Oregon State Librarian

SMALL and hopeful beginnings are frequently forerunners of great progress. In the case of Oregon libraries the hopes of the founders have been more than fulfilled. The real beginnings of libraries in this territory were the outgrowth of the pioneer spirit reaching back to a period destitute of library service in most parts of the country. A recent editorial in the *Oregonian* summarizes this earliest effort. "An almost immediate act of the immigrants was to give moral countenance and such material sustenance as was then feasible to a library movement. A trifling nucleus of books established at the falls of the Willamette in the early '40s, which has left less impression than it ought to have done on the records of the time, undoubtedly united with the first lyceum or debating society which flourished in the winter of 1842-3 to set in motion the machinery of government. An early act of the legislative body of 1845 was the authorization of a circulating library, called the Multnomah library but situated at Oregon City. It was, as the late Senator Nesmith once wrote, a most excellent institution of its kind and it fed local appetite with the meager viands that it had. Congress in the enabling act creating a territorial government appropriated \$5000 for books, a generous allowance for the time. But fire destroyed the library in 1855 and the books were never replaced. From the viewpoint of the library advocate, the ensuing half century was a blank." Incidentally, it may be interesting to know that a few years ago there was returned to the present State Library a book borrowed from the earliest state library in 1870, returned in 1917, 47 years overdue. We had almost forgotten that the beginnings of library work in Oregon were so remote.

The Portland Library Association was the first organization for general public service. It was started in 1864 and became a free library with tax support in March, 1901. The first librarian of this library, Mr. Harvey W. Scott, afterward became distinguished as the editor for many

years of the *Portland Oregonian*, one of the great newspapers of the country. The service of Miss Mary Frances Isom extended over a period of eighteen years, 1902 to 1920. The first volumes for this library came to Portland by way of the Isthmus as there was at that time no trans-continental railway service. The next public library in Oregon was opened in Ashland in 1891, and this was a center of light in Southern Oregon, being maintained as a subscription library until 1909. These two are given to show the trend which has, after all, probably been the history in other states—subscription libraries supported by gifts and memberships, furnishing good books to the communities for many years before becoming incorporated into the community life and receiving tax support. These early Oregon libraries had private support for many years, as the legislature passed no library enabling act until 1901, and this library law was not made really effective until 1903 when tax limitations were removed from it. The first free city library was established under this law in 1905, three associations having previously opened their libraries free of charge to the public—Portland, Salem and Eugene.

The passage of two library laws by the Legislature in 1905 marked the beginning of state library work in Oregon. One of these laws created the Library Commission and the other made provision for a county tax for school district libraries, the books for which were to be selected and bought by the State Commission. The Commission was directed to forward the establishment of local public libraries, to circulate traveling libraries and "to do any and all things necessary" to help the people of Oregon get good books and libraries. The Library Commission ceased to exist in 1913 when the Legislature transferred to it the book stock of the State Library which had been part of the Supreme Court Library, and changed the name of the Commission to Trustees of the State Library. The personnel remained the same with

one member appointed by the Governor and four ex-officio—the governor, state superintendent, president of the University, and librarian of the Portland Library. During the whole period there have been but two appointive members, men who have served the state with distinction and devotion—Mr. W. B. Ayer and Mr. Edgar B. Piper, the present appointee. For fifteen years the library cause had the advantage of the counsel and encouragement of Miss Mary Frances Isom, librarian of the Portland Library.

State library work was begun with an appropriation insufficient for its office expenses, without books, and with one employee—the present librarian. The first book stock was bought with money given by friends of the library cause who continued financial aid at intervals for many years, and with a co-operative fund created by a few communities which were eager for traveling library service. Forty thousand state and federal documents were transferred to it by the Law Library in 1913. Today the stock consists of 220,156 volumes, many thousands of unbound periodicals, and a valuable file of clippings classified for use. The State Library has 259,566 people entirely dependent on it for book service. It does not reach them all, and lack of financial support by the Legislature, with increased demands, has necessitated actual curtailment of service during the past two years. In spite of the handicap of insufficient state financial support, the Library now has 785 community branch libraries, 18,133 individual borrowers outside these branches, 2,300 county people call for books and 15,800 borrow by mail. It works in connection with county and local libraries giving supplementary service to all communities. There are in Oregon but three out of a total of 198 incorporated cities which have not had State Library service during the past two years and they have a total population of 178. There are 760 post-offices outside Multnomah county, and all but 56 of these received State Library shipments within the biennial period. Some of these offices serve only Indians, some are practically dead and others are, unfortunately, not visited by patrons who eagerly await the library shipments which bring opportunity for recreation, for education, or for the solution of some pressing practical problem. The character of these needs, the hunger for the inspiration and help which comes from the best books, and the appreciation of library service have been shown in the extracts from borrowers' letters which have been part of the past biennial reports of the Library.

The service of the library is wide-spread and much appreciated. It is practically the same service given by library commissions in other

states, with the addition of the school library work for the state, the selection and purchase of books for all school districts being entirely in the hands of the State Library so far as these books are bought with the school library funds derived from taxation. Mail order service to schools and individuals was begun in 1905 with little package libraries which soon developed into a general lending service. The Library has specialized in family libraries, aids to schools and debaters, and to foreigners seeking naturalization. Legislative reference work has been done as part of the library routine without special provision by law or additional financial support. Field work has never been undertaken on an extended scale and no technical work has been done by the state for public libraries as it has always been assumed that the state benefits should be equalized and that communities should be self-sustaining in matters of library organization. When the Commission was founded, it was decided that the need for books in such a thinly settled state could be met only by a central organization, and it has been the effort of the State Library during these twenty years to supply the books over a great territory, and this effort will be continued until there are sufficient county library systems to meet the needs of the rural and small town population.

County libraries were made possible in Oregon by a law of 1903 which applied only in Multnomah county, in which Portland is situated. The provisions of this law were made general in 1911, and the second county library was established in 1912. There are now nine county library systems in the state. There have been eleven, but two have been lost because of the unfortunate financial conditions of the past few years. The service standards of these libraries have been fixed by mutual agreement and thru conference with the State Library, but the present library law, which was entirely rewritten in 1919, incorporated many of these standards and was based upon the experience of the first systems.

Municipal public libraries have been established in all cities able to support independent institutions—in all towns of two thousand or more. Many libraries are, with the help of the State Library, serving smaller towns in the best way they can manage until county systems are established to back them up, to strengthen them administratively and to furnish an adequate book supply. Ninety-four towns and cities have free public libraries, and fifty of these have tax support.

School libraries are under the general supervision of the State Library, altho the lack of money for field work has made it impossible to give help except by means of printed aids and

correspondence. Some of the school libraries are merged with county and local library systems, and there are three towns outside of Portland which now employ high school librarians. The school law requires that these librarians should be certificated by the State School Superintendent and that they shall be graduates of standard library schools.

The State libraries, aside from the general State Library in Salem, are those of the University of Oregon at Eugene, with its branch Medical library in the Medical School at Portland, the library of the Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis, that of the Oregon Normal School at Monmouth, the library of the State Historical Society in Portland, and the Supreme Court Law Library at Salem. The libraries of the state educational institutions are in charge of competent librarians and have all been reorganized since the beginning of library work in Oregon. Those of the University and the Agricultural College are in their own buildings, and the building in which the Supreme Court Law Library and the State Library are housed in Salem was built by the Court for its library. Two of these institutions have had the service for many years of fine librarians, now gone, who made notable contributions to Oregon life, Mrs. Ida A. Kidder, affectionately known as "Mother Kidder" of the Agricultural College, and Miss Edna M. Hawley, for many years librarian of the Supreme Court Library at Salem.

A Library Association was organized in 1904, but it was later merged with the Pacific Northwest Library Association of which it is now a part. State conferences are held at intervals, usually annually, in the State Library at Salem, and these have been especially important in the upbuilding of the county library systems. The meeting of the American Library Association in Portland in 1905 occurred at the very beginning of general library development in Oregon, and this second meeting of the Association in our neighborhood comes after twenty years of library development—not very rapid development, it is true, but a very wholesome growth for the state. There has probably been too great dependence upon the State Library, necessitated by sparsely populated sections of great territorial extent, and the numerous small towns actually unable to finance satisfactory library service. The whole emphasis is being placed upon the county library system which appears to be the only solution of the library problem of the small towns. There has been no effort in Oregon to urge the establishment of small town libraries which could not have local financial support. The State Library suggests local reading rooms equipped with state books, feeling that the selec-

tion of books will probably be better and that the interest will be retained more effectively with the constantly changing book supply. Oregon librarians think they have profited by the mistakes of others as well as by their advancement toward ultimate library ideals. Books are very free, rules not emphasized, and the mechanical side of library work is made as unobtrusive as possible with any system.

Oregon has had its share of library buildings supplied thru the generosity of Mr. Carnegie. There are twenty-four of these in cities outside of Portland, which has received gifts for several branches. Aside from the libraries provided by these gifts there are others built by local funds, the fine library built in Portland by the county, the different state buildings, the three others provided by city funds—Roseburg, Cove and Dufur. Recently another city in a rapidly developing section of the state, Klamath Falls, has voted bonds of \$50,000 for a library building.

The most notable feature of library development in Oregon has been the fine progress and leadership of the Portland Library system which will undoubtedly be studied with interest by many of the visiting librarians this summer. For the rest of the state there is nothing tangible, or nothing to be seen with the eyes, but any one familiar with the situation must appreciate the fine library spirit which prevails thruout the state, the unusual interest in the use of good books demonstrated by the success of the state and county systems. Librarians hope the fine attitude toward education shown by the generous support of the state schools may, in the future, extend to the libraries.

Oregon authors have an association, the Oregon Writers' League, which numbers among its members many writers known to librarians. Among the most popular are Edison Marshall and Charles Alexander; the poets known to all are Joaquin Miller, Edwin Markham, who is also claimed by California but has been adopted for the poet laureate of Oregon, and Hazel Hall, a contemporary poet who is known to poetry lovers thru two choice volumes and many poems in the eastern periodicals. The list of Oregon authors is too extensive to be included in this memorandum but it occupies many pages of the State Library reports of recent years.

The books about Oregon, especially about its fascinating history and its wonderful scenery, will appeal to all visiting librarians, and there will undoubtedly be a display of them at this summer's meeting. There has been an extensive co-operative bibliography edited by Charles W. Smith, associate librarian of the University of Washington, which gives 4,500 titles of Pacific Northwest Americana. Miss Eleanor R. Rockwood, of the Portland Library, recently pub-

lished through the H. W. Wilson Company a shorter bibliography of books more generally available, and this will be the best reading guide for those who become interested in the Northwest as it is annotated. If the Northwest becomes a hobby with any librarian, there will be need for Wagner's "Bibliography of Original Narratives of Travel and Adventure from 1800 to 1865." Librarians whose minds have been opened to the fascination of Northwest history, especially of the early travels and the fur trade, will take down from their shelves with renewed interest the volumes of Thwaites' "Early Western Travels." If they have come to the Coast by the Union Pacific they will have followed close to the route of these early travelers. There are excellent Northwest historical collections in the University of Washington, Oregon Historical Library, Portland Public Library, and in the Oregon State Library. The market prices of Northwest Americana items has been very high during the past few years, and the librarians of this region are just now being encouraged to buy because of a slight drop in the prices. For the average reader who does not have access to the historical collections there are many good books available, with a list of some of which I conclude this article.

HISTORY

- Bancroft. History of Oregon. 2 vols.
 Bancroft. History of the Northwest coast. 2 vols.
 Bashford. Oregon missions
 Brooks. First across the continent (Lewis and Clark)
 Bell. Opening a highway to the Pacific
 Carey. History of Oregon
 Dye. McLoughlin and Old Oregon
 Goodwin. The trans-Mississippi West
 Horner. Oregon, her history, her great men, her literature
 Irving. Astoria
 Johnson. Short history of Oregon.
 Lewis. Economic resources of the Pacific Northwest
 Lighton. Lewis and Clark.
 Lyman. The Columbia River.
 Parkman. The Oregon trail
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 Skinner. Adventurers of Oregon
 Wheeler. The trail of Lewis and Clark. 2 vols.

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 Dye. The conquest
 Hough. The covered wagon
 Hough. The magnificent adventure (Lewis and Clark)

A GROUP OF OREGON POETS

- Davies. The skyline trail
 Euwer. Rhymes of our valley
 Hall, Grace. Patchwork
 Hall, Hazel. Curtains
 Higginson. The voice of April-land
 Markham. Lincoln, and other poems
 Miller. Poems
 Simpson. Gold-gated West

OREGON OUT-OF-DOORS

GEOLOGY

- Condon. Oregon geology
 McCornack. The geologic story of Oregon
 Sternberg. Life of a fossil hunter.
 Williams. Oregon caves

ANIMAL LIFE

- Bailey. Handbook of birds of the Western United States
 Elliot. Birds of the Pacific coast
 Finley. American birds
 Keep. West coast shells
 Lord. First book upon the birds of Oregon
 Reed. Western bird guide

PLANT LIFE

- Armstrong. Field book of western wild flowers
 Berry. Western forest trees
 Henshaw. Wild flowers of the North American mountains
 Oregon. University. Popular description of the common Oregon ferns
 Parsons. Wild flowers of California
 Piper and Beattie. Flora of Southeastern Washington
 Piper and Beattie. Flora of the Northwest Coast
 Saunders. Western flower guide
 Sudworth. Forest trees of the Pacific slope
 Sweetser. Some trees and shrubs of Oregon

SCENERY OF OREGON. LEGENDS

- Judson. Myths and legends of the Pacific Northwest
 Lancaster. The Columbia: America's great highway
 Oregon. Bureau of Mines. The Columbia River highway
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 Putnam. In the Oregon country
 Rusk. Tales of a western mountaineer
 Sharp. Summer
 Sharp. Where rolls the Oregon
 Stephens. From an Oregon ranch
 Wilkinson. Dingbat of Arcady
 Williams. Guardians of the Columbia

PIONEER REMINISCENCES

- Applegate. Recollections of my boyhood
 Banks. Live boys in Oregon
 Clarke. Pioneer days of Oregon history. 2 vols.
 Davenport. The country boy
 Geer. Fifty years in Oregon
 Meeker. Ox-team days on the Oregon trail
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The Library of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York, has these two volumes which it will give to any library which will pay parcel post charges.

Report of Minister of Education, Province of Ontario (Canada). 1922.

Transactions of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, V. 14, 1921-1922.

Adult Education: A Creative Opportunity*

By E. C. LINDEMAN, High Bridge, N. J.

ADULT education differs from other forms of education in three particulars. Its aim is to provide for an exchange of vital experience; its method is founded upon the assumption that real education must not have its roots in external authorities but rather in personal experiences with reality; and it, therefore, proceeds by means of a technique of discussion in which the teacher or leader performs the function of guide and stimulator but never that of law-giver. It will be seen at once that adult education must be confined to small groups, and that lectures and mass teaching are automatically eliminated. The method does not, however, exclude the use of books but does make demands for a new theory regarding the place of literature in the educative process. Brief statements providing essential historical perspective and also indicating conflicting purposes within the movement must precede the treatment of library opportunities.

Above the entrance to the first people's college (Folkschule) in Denmark, was placed an inscribed motto which read: "What the Prussians have taken from us by force from without, we must regain by education from within." At the time, the Danish people were impoverished by war and by collapse of the world's wheat market. They were moreover an illiterate people; not more than twenty per cent of the population was able to read and write. They were confronted with the necessity of making two important adjustments—to change their system of agricultural production from grain-growing to dairying, and to educate, not merely children, but the total population. They accomplished both and much more. In a half-century they became the leading producers of dairy products in the world and reduced illiteracy to one-ten-thousandth of one per cent. But what is more to the point, they created a national culture in which motives of life were altered. Co-operative marketing and buying served to equalize economic income so that Denmark came to be the one modern country without poverty and without concentrated wealth. Fifty-four people's colleges, where education is viewed not as a process which arbitrarily ends when certain grades are passed but rather a continuing process without end, are now scattered thruout the country. Adult education in Denmark does not mean vocational education. In fact, no vocational subjects are

taught in the Folkschule. There are no examinations and no entrance requirements save the desire to learn. There are no standardized curricula and no standardized teachers. This is a movement of, for, and by the people, and it has successfully demonstrated its capacity to remould the lives and aspirations of the citizens of a whole nation.

The British workers' education movement, which has just celebrated the anniversary of its first quarter-century of activity, has evolved along different lines. It is specifically a movement of the working classes, i. e., the industrial groups. In the earlier days, its emphasis was almost wholly upon economic subjects and its purpose was interpreted in terms of the class struggle. Education in Great Britain came to be the symbol of a peaceful weapon with which the disadvantaged workers were to strive for justice. The aim was to train leaders and spokesmen for the labor movement, and those who have taken the pains to study the contemporary situation in England must agree that the movement has justified its aim in a surprising degree. The warp and woof of the British Labour Party is the workers' education movement which has for twenty-five years enlisted both intellectuals and laborers in a comprehensive educational program. When both traditional political parties were bankrupt of leadership and incapable of developing a sustained domestic and foreign policy, these leaders were called upon to govern the British Commonwealth.

In the United States, as might be expected of a nation at once so vast and so heterogeneous, the adult education movement has thus far proceeded along variegated lines and without unity. Classes exist whose primary purpose is to train leaders for the labor movement; classes exist whose primary purpose is to give adults the kind of education they desire whether it contributes to the success of the labor movement as such or not, and there are other classes in which there is a distinct bias against using education merely as a weapon for the class struggle. It will be seen that the differences in aim are in reality connected with the problem of power. Education represents power. Shall it be power over or power with? Beyond this lies another fundamental philosophic

May I answer the query raised by my subject, "Adult Education: A Creative Opportunity for Libraries," by reaffirming my faith in certain principles of public service and by adding unto principle a modicum of prophecy?

*Abridged from a paper read before the Southeastern Library Association, Asheville, N. C., Oct. 16, 1924.

1. If the public library is to be regarded as a creative agency in intellectual movements, it must be a free institution. The primary condition of creativeness is freedom. If the library is a class institution hedged about by the prejudices of a controlling group whose biases the librarian must obey, it can never become a creative part of any movement. Then must it always be the partial follower, never the originator. One of the largest municipal libraries in the country has recently acquired the best collection of revolutionary literature extant. This act raises the fundamental problem of freedom. Some libraries exclude revolutionary literature on the ground that it is dangerous to the existing order. Such a position is a tacit assumption that ignorance is safer than intelligence and once that position is taken freedom vanishes.

2. Libraries, like all other community institutions, have still before them a vast area of experimentation in connection with the always-changing problem of control, management, direction. Who, in the average community, sits on the library board and determines what the library's policies are to be? Frequently such boards are constructed merely out of names on paper; like many other cherished but discarded remnants of Democracy, members of the boards are elected to satisfy a tradition but are wholly non-functional. Library boards will not, as has been unmistakably demonstrated in other spheres, function constructively unless they actually represent the community's intellectual interests and are allowed to deal with vital problems. In a modern community, particularly if it participates in the intellectual currents of the present, there will be alert, intelligent and purposeful men and women of the laboring classes who deserve and should have representation on all boards which direct educational policies.

3. Library service has been marvelously extended during the past two decades, and the chief honor of this success belongs to librarians. Particularly since librarians have banded themselves together in lively craftsmanship organizations, a veritable missionary spirit of progress has existed. Not merely in cities but in remote rural areas books have been made accessible. Librarians have learned the psychology of salesmanship and with characteristic American zeal they have applied themselves to the task of rendering reading an appealing occupation. But already in certain communities adult education groups have started to collect their own libraries. Either the existing libraries were not sufficiently alert to respond to the new needs or (reason everlasting) funds were inadequate. Adult educa-

tion presents to libraries not an artificial demand for books but a real hunger and library extension has here one of its most promising fields for future expansion.

4. What kinds of books are most useful to adults who read purposefully? The clue which answers this query may be found in the publications of the Workers Education Bureau of the United States and the Workers Educational Association of Great Britain. In the first place, adults wish to know how to express their ideas clearly and forcefully, and consequently they desire books which clarify the use of language. The first publication issued under the auspices of the Workers' Bookshelf was entitled "Joining in Public Discussion." It is a small book which makes logic practical and rhetoric important. Workers both in this country and in England immediately recognised the value of such a treatise and its sale has been phenomenal. In the next place, adults want books which help to answer the query: What sort of a world do we live in? They find themselves caught in a gigantic economic machine which moulds their lives and fortunes and naturally they wish to understand it. They wish to study economics, not as a dry set of laws, but as a living portion of their lives. Next they aim to understand the limitations and possibilities of human nature. Psychology and the social sciences, the sciences which deal with man as an individual and with man as a member of groups, the technical bases of humanism hold a place central to the awakened aspirations of adults. And now that the movement has become more or less established, a hunger for that literature which portrays, not daily bread but the Bread of Life, is clearly discernible. Inarticulately, blindly, but inevitably the workers of the world reach out after beauty and adventure. Life, as many of them are obliged to live it, may hold little enough of music, of poetry, of romance, but because they are human beings they strive after these ineffable gifts. And who shall deny them the inalienable right of beauty?

But it is not enough to be aware of the kinds of literature which adults desire: somehow this literature is still in the main hidden away in volumes of forbidding size and upon shelves which, to the uninitiated, still seem inaccessible. A book which one owns as a homely possession is one thing; a book owned by the community, carefully indexed and meticulously guarded by a librarian, is quite another thing. The person who possesses sufficient persistence to procure the latter volume must have already experienced the motivating taste. Occasionally this taste is born thru the medium of book reviews, but the technique of book-reviewing has become far too stereotyped to perform this task

creatively. It has become the custom for grocers and fruit-dealers to cut into a water-melon and to remove a sample which acquaints the prospective buyer with the quality of the melon. Some such technique is needed to provide latent readers with an *Oliver Twist* appetite. Library publications, properly edited and properly distributed, may constitute one of the important avenues of experimentation.

5. It has never been my fortune to visit a library which was believed to be of sufficient size. Books somehow have a habit of occupying an unbelievable amount of space. But libraries will never become potent centers of learning until more space is provided for human beings than for books. A modern library should have rooms, sound-proof of course, where small groups of people might meet for discussion-classes, not lectures. One of the curious facts concerning the human mind and the learning process is that knowledge is most likely to become assimilated if it is sought at the time when actually needed to solve a problem. What teacher has not been disillusioned by "required readings" and "library assignments" which are finally brought into the class-room as dead logs long after the fire of interest in an acute problem has died down? Books should be available when needed and if adults could study in an environment of books, the information which books contain might enter consciousness in normal and permanent fashion.

6. In an admirable and critical volume published by the Carnegie Foundation entitled "The American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge," William S. Learned presents certain problems which should serve to keep librarians alert as well as humble for at least a generation to come. The author is chiefly concerned with the difficulties which stand in the way of an effective diffusion of knowledge among adults. This is neither the time nor the place to recapitulate his analysis of difficulties, but it is the appropriate moment to state that the problems involved are too comprehensive and too technical to allow hasty generalization or easy dismissal. If libraries are to become what all devoted librarians in their less contented moments grant they should become, namely, creative centers of learning, a broad, co-operative venture in experimentation must be initiated. Library organizations must join hands with all other agencies concerned with the problems of adult education in a joint enterprise of finding out how books and journals may be most effectively used as releases to the human mind. The solution does not lie merely in research, in learning how elements

of success have been achieved, but also in adventurous experiment in which all libraries may participate.

St. Louis Course in Work with Children

THE increasing demand for children's librarians and the consequent need of more centers of training has led the St. Louis Library School to offer an additional curriculum, providing special training in library work with children.

Beginning next September, students may register for this course, which will consist approximately of twenty semester hours in general library work and ten semester hours in library work with children. Graduates of library schools who wish to specialize in library work with children and who are recommended by their respective library school directors, may be accepted for the program of ten semester hours, with the privilege of working about thirty-two hours a week (three-quarters time) under supervision in the Children's Department of the St. Louis Public Library, for which compensation at the usual library rates will be granted.

The program of ten semester hours will include children's literature, story-telling, the administration of library work with children, and work with schools. If at any time during the course it is clear that a student is not adapted to work with children, or is not doing satisfactory work, it is understood that the School may decide that the student shall withdraw.

Application blanks may be obtained from Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, Supervisor of Children's Work, St. Louis Public Library, Olive, 13th and 14th Streets, St. Louis, Mo.

The ten outstanding articles in the May Magazines as selected by the Library Advisory Committee of the Franklin Square Agency (A. E. Bostwick and Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr.) are: "The Fourth Migration," by eminent authors, in *Survey Graphic*; "Congress Invades the White House," by Charles Merz, in *Harper's*; "Some Younger English Novelists," by Hugh Walpole, in the *Bookman*; "Music of the Fairies," Herbert Ravenel Sass, in *Good Housekeeping*; "Overcrowding the Women's Colleges," W. A. Neilson, in the *Nation*; "War Between Church and State in France," in *Current History*; "Why I Live Abroad," by Lawrence J. Thomson, in the *American Mercury*; "The New Religions of America," Jules Bois, in the *Forum*; "Some American Women and the Vote," K. F. Gerould, in *Scribner's*; "Florida—the Pioneer State," Frank P. Stockbridge, in the *Review of Reviews*.

A City Library Field Worker

THE need of tying the city's and the library's activities together convinced the Cincinnati Public Library last autumn that there was a need for a library field worker. Unless plans were published in the newspapers, the public library was unaware of many proposed civic activities in which the library should participate until it was too late to do so adequately. There were scores of organizations working for better health conditions, housing improvements, with night schools, with the hard of hearing, with invalids confined to their homes, home study clubs and social and settlement workers in general, whose activities were but vaguely known to the library, while the activities and possibilities of help from the library were too frequently but vaguely known to these organizations.

The need of a field worker from the library who spent the major portion of her time outside of the library building was further emphasized by the need of her bringing the city's activities to the attention of the Readers Bureau in the library, so the work of this bureau could be made definitely available to social welfare and educational workers.

Experience has shown two main approaches by the field worker to local activities. A special group of workers may be selected and a contact can be made with every activity in this group. This was done recently by the library's approach to classes in nursing. The field worker arranged meetings with the superintendents of nursing in six large hospitals, and a half-hour visit was spent with each one.

The first superintendent wished no assistance as her hospital was well supplied with books. She borrows, however, lantern slides for lectures on bacteriology. The second superintendent wanted material on the beginning of social service in hospitals and also illustrative material for a pageant on nursing. These needs were referred to the reference and art departments at the library which supplied the material. The third superintendent asked for application cards from the library, which request was referred by the field worker to the library's registration division, and sixteen borrowers' cards were issued. The fourth superintendent wished to have leaflets on file in the main library, and all branch library buildings for the vocational use of young women interested in nursing. The fifth superintendent brought her classes together on two evenings for talks by the field worker on the library, and a deposit station was placed in this hospital by the library for the nurses' use. The sixth wished application blanks for borrowers' cards so that books could be borrowed for supplementary reading. The library

is arranging for an exhibit of books on nursing at the hospitals and further co-operation is being planned with the entire Nursing Council.

The other approach by the library to local activities is less definite at the start but more comprehensive in its final scope. A bank wished to borrow the Harvard Classics, which were acknowledged at the bank as lent by the library, and which were displayed with a sign "Have these books and a bank book." This led to the field worker being asked to talk on the public library before the bank's employees and then by the plan of a bank official to secure all his employees as library users.

The Freiberg Passion Play was recently shown here and the reference department prepared a reading list on it. The field worker then brought the theatre's attention to this list, two thousand copies of which were then printed as book-marks by the theatre.

Typical activities of the field worker during the last month were as follows:

Met with an officer of the Camp Fire Girls to arrange for the lending of books to girls and their leaders; conference with the Story Telling Institute officers to be held this summer; invited to supper at the Cathedral House to present the library in a talk to young women; met with the Curriculum Committee of the Daily Vacation Bible Schools to arrange for books for summer use; met with the Better Motion Picture Council, American Association of University Women and a class in the College of Education, University of Cincinnati; conference with the Board of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which led to the display of posters and animal books at the library this last month; secured material from the Industrial Arts Exhibit to display with books on industrial arts in the main library building; met with a representative of the Health Federation to plan for Health Day, May 12th, and to secure additional health and nursing material for the library; secured an exhibit of native hard woods to display at the library with books on trees; talked at a meeting of the Institute for Boy Scout Masters; secured an exhibit of engineering photographs to display with engineering books during the recent national conference of engineers; met with officers of the Guaranty Trust Company and secured their permission to post book lists on the bank's bulletin board.

A library field worker has been active in the Cincinnati Public Library only for a few months, but the possibilities for good work thru this new agency seems limitless.

E. GERTRUDE AVEY, *Field Worker,*
Cincinnati Public Library.

County Libraries in the British Islands

EIGHTY-SIX schemes for county library service to British communities were in operation in 1924, with others in immediate prospect, whereas in 1920 only about twenty schemes were in operation. Another significant feature was the change of title from the "Rural Library" of 1920 to the "County Library" of 1924. In the early days the problem of the trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust had been to discover by what system the village could be supplied with a public library service. In course of time county authorities began to consider the more populous districts of their areas which were too large to be satisfied with the purely rural system altho not wealthy enough to maintain an independent library service. Even where small boroughs did possess independent libraries, it soon became clear, there was good reason to think that better service could be secured by co-ordination or co-operation with the County Library Authority upon some fixed contributory basis. The county system could benefit in turn by an arrangement with the more powerful urban libraries to supply extra-urban readers from the more serious sections of their stock. It seemed desirable to make all local resources fully available before recourse was had to the Central Library for students. It became clear, furthermore that county library committees must seriously consider their function in relation to educational and social movements in rural areas.

For the discussion of these and related problems there was held under the auspices of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust a county library conference in the College of Preceptors, London, last November 4th to 6th. The selection of subjects and the allocation of papers were previously planned at a meeting of several senior librarians, at which a Director of Education and the Trustees' Secretary were present. "The views expressed by the several speakers," states the Secretary, J. M. Mitchell, "though they cannot be assumed in all cases to represent the opinions of the Conference as a whole or of the Trustees, are accordingly of the greatest importance to students of County Library policy, as being the considered views of those who have had intimate practical knowledge of the problems." Copies of the *Proceedings*, a quarto of over one hundred pages, may be obtained on application to the Offices of the Trustees, East Port, Dunfermline, Scotland.

During the first day attendance was, at their own request, limited to county librarians and

education officers representing centres which had not yet appointed a librarian. On the second day borough librarians and educational representatives were admitted, the county librarians had preference in debate. The third day was free to all without restriction.

"How to Start a County Library Scheme" was discussed by Miss E. D. Newberry, librarian, Nottinghamshire, subsequently Norfolk, at the first session, in a paper which gave special attention to problems of transportation. An ideal method of transport is that used by Perth and Kent, which have library vans fitted with shelves and taking about a thousand books.

Some general problems of the book stock were outlined by D. C. Henrik Jones, librarian of Buckinghamshire, who suggested that the total number of adult books actually in circulation at centres in a county where the scheme is in a fairly well-developed state should be equivalent to ten per cent of the total population of the area served; while the total number of juvenile books should provide one for each three of the school population. Half-yearly exchanges seemed to him the best practice. Mr. Jones hoped the Trustees would prepare a "nucleus" catalog or list of best books for a county library.

The successful formation of local library committees representative of all phases of thought and activity in the area for which it functions is the true secret of success in any scheme, in the opinion of J. Barton Eckett of Durham. A preliminary tour of the village itself will give valuable information. "What is the size of the village? Is it compact or straggling? Is the school in the centre or on the outskirts? Is there any building which would serve our purpose better? What signs are there of general village life and activity? Is the Women's Institute notice board to be seen? Is the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movement active here? Finally, what are the general conclusions to be drawn from the type of the houses to be met with and the probable occupations of the inhabitants?" Book exhibitions in connection with county schemes are invaluable, and the Federation of Women's Institutes will prove of great use in connection with these. Mr. Eckett's comments on the opposition often to be expected from the local school teacher, parson and farmer-landowner were challenged in the discussion following his paper.

A centre for adults only with the children drawing their supplies from the schools was suggested as the most desirable plan by W.

Claud Hamilton of Wiltshire. It is also desirable to secure the co-operation of the District Council at once, as there is less difficulty in dealing with a public body than with a number of small organizations. "The local Authorities will commence by administering their libraries; shortly they will take a pride in them; after that has come to pass we shall in all probability coax them to submit to differential rating. . . ." (Under the Public Libraries Act of 1919 a County Council which has adopted the Act has powers, after consultation with the local Urban Authority, of levying an additional rate in respect to library services over and above what may be considered the normal book-supply).

Mr. Ogilvie of Midlothian emphasized that it is the duty of an Education Authority to make whatever provision seems reasonable for every portion of its area not already provided for with public library facilities; otherwise the Fifth Section of the 1918 (Scotland) Act will have failed in its purpose, and the two extremes of population, the city and the hamlet, will each have its library service, but the moderately populated areas of the country will be left as they were. Apart from being a mere book store, he said, the central County Library may and should become a useful information bureau to the residents of its area.

The case of the local librarian was first put to the conference at the fourth session by Mrs. Eleanor Busk, Westerham, Kent, who received a case of fifty books from the county library at Maidstone about two years ago and circulated them from her house. All the books were taken in the first hour and people were clamoring for more. Westerham has a population of 3,000, and 550 use the library, now situated in the Women's Institute hut. Miss A. E. Jelley, Soham, Cambridgeshire, had much of interest to report on the reading habits of village inhabitants. Old-fashioned novels are in demand by the older readers; the extremely emotional and sensational novel by boys and girls of seventeen to twenty. Travel is read, but comparatively little biography, and vocational books seldom. J. G. Milner, of Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, said that there are many people in his village, who, while putting up with the ordinary things of life, would like something better, in fact the best, in music and literature; his hope is that the local branch of the county library may become the medium thru which they will obtain it.

Relations between public library service and education were taken up at the fifth session, with Miss E. S. Haldane in the chair. Miss A. S. Cooke, Kent librarian, laid stress upon the importance of keeping the closest touch with

the Education officials, especially at the outset. The Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees took a wise step in making the library a part of the Education Office and the librarian a member of the Education Office staff. Books for school children, she felt, should be supplied from education funds up to the age of fourteen, after which period library funds could better be used.

The paper on the growth and development of county libraries in Ireland presented by Thomas McGreevy, assistant secretary of the Carnegie Trust Irish Advisory Committee, gave facts for the period subsequent to the Rural Library Conference of 1920. In spite of unfavourable political and social conditions, progress has been rapid, and already the Government of Northern Ireland has passed the necessary legislation. The Free State Government had introduced, and was expected shortly to pass, a bill which would establish the county as a library unit. Eight county libraries were in operation at the time of the report.

Co-operation between counties and urban libraries was dealt with by Captain R. Wright, Middlesex librarian, W. C. Berwick-Sayers, of Croydon, and F. N. Cook, West Riding Education Authority. Captain Wright's paper was notable for its carefully prepared and extensive statistics. He considered four forms of co-operation: By receiving from the small town libraries a like number of books; by purchasing additional books and making a capital charge on the town libraries; by capital expenditure from the county funds, and allowing the urban libraries to repay over a period of five years; and by obtaining an additional grant for this purpose from the Carnegie Trust. Mr. Sayers foresaw that "ultimately . . . the whole country will be placed under a national library authority; that that authority will divide the country into convenient divisions; that the library rate or tax will be raised over the whole area and disposed according to the needs of each division; that the Central Library for Students will become the reservoir for the whole country for books needed only rarely by any individual district; that great divisional libraries situated in the larger towns in each division will act for the division as the Central Library now attempts to act for the whole country; and that in each town and village there will be a small library constantly refreshed by new books from the divisional library. The whole position could be made effective by a little statesmanship."

School libraries have been installed in 99 per cent of all school districts in the State of Washington.

The Circulating Museum

By HAROLD WARD
Assistant in the Newark Museum

THE general burden of these articles* is that the public museum, whether supported by private endowment or public taxes, has—with a few notable exceptions—failed deplorably in serving any truly popular and practical need. The conviction is voiced that certain radical changes in museum methods and ideals are therefore imminent, and that these changes, already taking place, will be toward a more important, human and even homely relationship with every class of the community of which hitherto the Museum has been too remote and austere a part. And finally—on the basis of our fifteen years' experience and experiment here in Newark—it has been repeatedly suggested that no influence or set of influences could be more valuable to a museum seeking development along broadened lines than those governing the practice of a live and progressive public library.

To illustrate one of the more striking of these influences, a preceding article in this series, treating of "Pictures in Place of Objects," showed how the Newark Library thru its Art Department, anticipated one of the most important functions of the new type of museum. In its collections of pictures, numbering half-a-million items, classified in readily accessible files under nearly four thousand headings, and lent to card-holders in liberal quantity, the Library controls a weapon of research, pleasure and profit not to be ignored in a world that has—largely thru the motion picture—realized the tremendous value of any direct appeal to the eye. Educators, quick to put a name to any tendency that may advance or retard the march of human progress, resume this powerful appeal under the brief term, "visual instruction," and are now casting about eagerly for whatever forces, methods and institutions may be enlisted in the strenuous task of making it work for better and not worse.

From the beginning the Newark Museum has sought to be an active ally in this task. Empowered by its charter to interest itself in "the reception and exhibition of articles of art, science and technology"; committed to "the encouragement of the study of the arts and sciences," a right of way was cleared for it along any line, however unconventional or untravelled, that promised a closer contact with its public. To the diversity and range of interests existing in this busy public the Museum

could fitly respond only by the versatility of its collections and the common sense, taste and ingenuity displayed in their exhibition and use. It has attempted so to respond during the first fifteen years of its life under the kindly sponsorship and stimulation of the Public Library: the new building being made ready for it thru the generosity of one of its most loyal supporters is one of many proofs that it has achieved a good measure of success.

Of particular interest in this work of making itself useful is the department known as the "Lending Collection" or, with more familiar reference to library practice, the "Circulating Museum." Two or three years after its establishment it became clear to the Museum that it could hardly ignore the example set by the Library in its lending of pictures—and practically everything else printed—to whomsoever needed it. "Why," reasoned the Museum, "if one picture be worth ten thousand words, should not one object-lesson be worth a thousand pictures? And, if children and grown-ups are too lazy, or indifferent, or shy, to come to the Museum—why not go to the school or home myself, along with the books and pictures which I can so vividly illustrate?"

So, in 1913 the Museum started out on its extension work "with a small collection of charts of industrial processes, about one hundred simple specimens of minerals, and a few bottles of soils and slabs of wood." Not a very brilliant beginning, but good enough to promise a future of usefulness. Today, the lending collections of the museum number over five thousand objects, brought together from all parts of the world, classified under twenty-eight heads in a pamphlet of twenty pages. And every one of these objects is a hard worker: no easy-going languid life under glass, but a constant travelling about among schools, clubs, churches, factories and homes—wherever there is curiosity plus a real need or desire to know.

As this part of the Museum's work became better known and more appreciated, material began to pour in from varied and unexpected sources. Manufacturers like the Firestone Tire Co., Elgin Watch, Hershey Chocolate, Goodyear Rubber, sent samples of their products, mostly for adaption on the Industrial Charts of which there are now three hundred, all strenuously used; Newark and New Jersey firms sent of their wares, and Newark individuals, men, women and children, gave possessions ranging from bird's eggs to rare textiles of the Orient and costume dolls from anywhere. The Smith-

* This is the ninth of a series of papers on "The Library and the Museum" appearing in the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The eighth appeared in the number for February 15.

sonian Institute sent fifty birds, and from the permanent collections in the museum duplicate or second rate objects are always being transferred—only to enter upon a longer and more exciting career of usefulness, via the lending collection.

Of course, much material is purchased, direct, or thru friends travelling in various parts of the world, while other friends often give to us quaint and instructive souvenirs of places and peoples seen.

Thus it may be understood that variety is the spice of the circulating museum's life. Some idea of this variety may be had from a brief inventory of possessions to date: physical geography models; material illustrating the lives and customs of peoples and races; weapons, toys and pottery; models of all kinds, such as mediaeval castles, Swiss chalet, Eskimo snow-house, coal mine, log cabin; physics apparatus; casts of men and women, gods and goddesses; costume dolls (a very important collection); textiles; nature study material covering birds, butterflies and other insects, fishes, mammals, minerals, woods and economic products; industrial charts showing how such important things as leather, rice, cotton, iron and steel, sugar, coffee, tea come to be: all charts are now made by the Museum staff and it seems impossible ever to catch up with the demand made upon them.

Indeed, the chief problem with all this material is not, what to do with it, but how to make it do all that is expected. Within the past few years the number of objects lent yearly has increased from ten to eighteen thousand: an average of three times for every item, with a consequent loss by breakage or deterioration of many. The principal circulation has been, and still is, among the several hundred school teachers of Newark and near-by towns—all of whom, by the way, seem to want the same kinds of things at the same time, and much that the Museum itself has long wanted, in vain. This teacher-use of material is by far the most important educationally, too. The children get from the dolls, models, birds, butterflies, toys, charts and minerals which they may freely examine and handle that touch of nature which makes them friendly to knowledge. And consider how sympathetic to *their* Museum these children will be when in course of time they become mothers and fathers!

Often the children come to the Museum themselves: sometimes to bring a dead bird which they wish stuffed and added to the collections, or some other tremendous trifle which they have heard the Museum can use; more frequently to

inquire about a mediaeval castle, a knight in armor, a doll or basket or a fragment of coconut to help them understand something in a book, or in their own heads. These visits are given the most respectful attention, even if a teacher's mediation is required finally to get the coveted object.

There are also numerous "special" borrowers, and for these the lending department frequently prepares a "special" exhibit, illustrating some process, country or people. For example, a public library in New Jersey appeals to the Newark Museum for an exhibit showing textile manufacture; the State Museum at Trenton is in need of a group of costume dolls; a department store wants birds to assist in a bird house contest among its employees; the State Federation of Women's Clubs seeks material on the Arts of the American Indian—and the Circulating Museum fills all these requests to the limit of its ability, asking nothing better than that the various objects, each in its compact durable case, with adequate labels and descriptive matter, come back a little more obviously worn from use than when they went out.

This co-operation with every form of activity in a modern community, this willingness to be a distributor rather than a passive, if efficient assembler of the implements of knowledge and culture, is the very kernel of the new museum idea, as advocated in Newark; and a general account of the lending collections is here given to illustrate the logical way in which this Museum tries to meet every claim upon it tending toward such distribution. Emphasis has been laid upon the stimulus provided by constant association with the Library, many of whose assistants work, turn and turn about, with Museum assistants, to the immense gain of both institutions; upon the simplicity and homeliness of the lending department's beginnings; and upon the varied opportunities for service that came to it from the day it made itself and its aspirations known to the community.

In a very real sense the circulating museum has been an experiment. The idea of lending objects did not originate with it, but the purpose in so lending these objects, the essentially democratic, almost informal attitude toward borrowers, gave to Newark's expression of the idea a fresh and fertile significance. It may be doubted whether this experiment, with all its blunders, set-backs, and strategic retreats, would have been continued to its present success had not the people of Newark, by their pleased and ever-augmenting appreciation, expressed the wish that it be included among the permanent functions of the Museum.

Total Destruction of Birmingham's Library

A FIRE which destroyed the Birmingham (Ala.) City Hall and the Public Library on April 23, caused loss of property estimated at \$800,000 including the 200,000 volumes in the Library which were insured for \$100,000.

The new public library building is to be ready in about a year; in the meanwhile the Library has opened temporary quarters and is working on building up a new book stock. On the afternoon of the fire the *Birmingham News* opened a book fund on the suggestion of Mr. Gottlieb, owner of the Studio Book Shop, who subscribed fifty dollars as did the Augusta Friedman Shop. In addition the Studio Book Shop pledged fifty dollars worth of books so that before the fire was well extinguished the fund started with the \$250 subscription from the *News* had reached four hundred dollars and an appeal for help had reached the citizens.

Mr. Josselyn, the director of the library says:

While looking over some new books in the catalog department at about noon I heard yelling on the street four stories below. Going to the window I saw the street lined with people waving their hands and yelling "The City Hall's on fire!" All of us in the catalog department rushed out toward the circulation department and were met by firemen who guided the Circulation and catalog people down the fire escape from the stack room. Seeing these people

headed for safety I crawled through the elevator hall, which was full of smoke, to the reference department and reading room, which rooms were empty.

From the reference room I went thru the back hall to the children's department, Miss Foster's office and the staff room, finding these empty. Firemen were now in the stack room. We got a hose up a second stairway. I then gathered several paintings up and went down a stairway to the street leaving these pictures in a clothing store and returning to the library. Firemen were still fighting on the fourth floor. Thinking possibly the fire would be a great water damage but little fire consumption I closed catalog drawers, filing cabinets, desks and typewriters. Then like a fool I wandered about, back to my office where I picked up our board minute book and financial account book, went into the children's department again where I picked up a Zuni Indian bowl and leaving these things all on the circulation desk I helped the firemen with several chemicals and then left by a stairway.

The janitor, cleaning up the stacks, became over-heated. Thinking it was due to the weather and his hard working he went out on the fire escape to cool off (I think he quite often does this). People below yelled to him the



IN THE OPEN SHELF DEPARTMENT WATER SPOILED WHAT THE FIRE DID NOT CONSUME

building was on fire and he never went back for his hat, coat or change.

Several ladies were in the children's department but fortunately there were no children. These people left when somehow they discovered the building was on fire, but did not say a word to the library assistant. Miss Cain sitting on a low stool filing cards did not know of the fire until a man ran in and grabbed her by the shoulder saying "For God's sake get out." When she got down she saw the ladies who had left her at the entrance with tears streaming down their cheeks.

As the fire occurred during the early noon hour many of the library staff were out and the public attendance was small.

Early during the fire the reference room fell through to the third floor. This room floor was suspended from the rafters. A little later the tower commenced falling taking the reading room, the county department, the halls and part of the open shelf department with it.

Fire completely consumed all of the children's department, school department, staff room, children's librarian's office, reference department, reading room, county department and one half of the open shelf department. Water damaged most of the remaining half of the open shelf department and the stack. A total of 70,000 books, besides picture collections, pamphlet files, catalogs, files, maps and equipment made up the library.

We saved the official shelf-list catalog in fair condition, two-thirds of the public catalog in fair condition, one-third of public catalog in very poor condition, but legible I hope, our correspondence files and the safe.

We have opened temporary quarters in the National Guard Armory (Old Post Office) in the heart of the business section, at the corner of 18th Street and Second Avenue, on the first floor, about one-half of our old floor area.

The night following the fire I wired publishers and supply houses and the A. L. A., as a result of which we have furniture, books and magazines already here and flowing in in a steady stream. Miss Chapman, the vice-director, went to New York two days following the fire to buy the first big lot of new books and some of our force are busy on new orders here. We had \$100,000 insurance, of which I expect to obtain the full amount. Our loss is probably over \$200,000.

We would appreciate any worth while gifts from any library having duplicates, to help us in rebuilding our collection prior to moving into our new quarters about a year from now.

Capacity of High School Library Rooms

CAPACITY of a library for a four-year or senior high school should not be less than fifty for the first five hundred pupils, and the capacity should be increased by five for every one hundred over five hundred. This is the rule suggested by the Committee on School House Planning and Construction of the National Education Association in its recent report (Washington: The Association, 164p.), to take the place of the recommendation of the N. E. A. Committee on Standards that the library in four-year and senior high schools seat from five to ten per cent of the total enrollment of the school. The ten per cent established by this rule has not met the needs of small high schools, most of which are unable to employ a full-time librarian or to spare the time of other teachers to supervise the room, and so have deemed it advisable to keep the library in the study hall. In the case of the large high school the rule has not seemed sufficiently definite as the difference between five and ten per cent is very great.

The library should continue to accommodate not less than fifty in schools in which the average number of pupils having study periods exceeds 75 to 100 pupils even when one or two separate study halls are provided. These study halls should be placed on one or both ends of the library and be connected with the library by a special passageway so that pupils may go to the library without the necessity of securing a corridor pass. This freedom of access tends greatly to increase the use to be made of the library. In these schools requiring study halls in addition to the library, every pupil may well be assigned to the library one or more definite periods in each week that contact with the library may be assured, and that the library may be counted in determining the capacity of the building, thereby reducing the amount of space necessary for study halls. However, a reasonable number of seats should be available for the use of pupils desiring to go to the library from the study halls and for teachers desiring to make use of the library.

In regard to libraries and study halls in four-year and senior high schools the committee's conclusions are that in very small schools of not over 60 to 75 pupils there may be a main room to seat the entire school. The library will be placed in this room and each pupil will study at his own desk and the room will be freed of recitations as far as possible. In schools of 100 to 300 pupils there should be a library-study hall accommodating 50 or more,

and one or more study halls each accommodating approximately 75 pupils.

For junior high schools, the committee suggests that even the smallest should have a library room capable of accommodating at one time a normal sized class and at the same time provide for pupils likely to have individual study periods and teachers wishing to use the library at that time. In accordance with this rule, the minimum capacity may well be regarded as fifty. If the school is very small the library may, when available, be used for other classes. If the total number of library periods for all the classes in the school exceeds the number of periods in the week available for classes so that two or more classes must be assigned to the library at one time, the library should be large enough to accommodate these classes and at the same time provide for pupils having individual study periods and teachers desiring to use the library.

Conference rooms separated from the library by part-glass partitions are recommended for both junior and senior high school buildings. Each conference room should accommodate six persons at a library table three feet by five feet and a row of book shelves. Hence the conference rooms should be approximately eight by twelve feet. They should be so placed that the librarian will have direct supervision of the pupils at work without moving from the desk at which she ordinarily does her work. Conference rooms give pupils place in which to work upon group projects or other group problems and teachers a place where they may work with small groups of pupils who need special assistance. They are near the library where reference material may be easily secured and the assistance of the librarian obtained. They involve no great expense since their capacity may be included as a part of the pupil-capacity needed for the library.

Viewpoints in Modern Drama

In "Viewpoints in Modern Drama," the fourth in the A. L. A. Viewpoint Series, Francis K. W. Drury, assistant librarian of Brown University, gives a selection of 368-208 long and 160 short—plays of the last fifty years (for the most part of the last thirty) showing "evidence of value in at least one test of a worthwhile play: a significant theme, a timely topic, a proper dramatic form, interesting characterization, a telling story, convincing dialog, a rounded whole." Supplementing the list arranged alphabetically by author in groups such as: Character studies, personal ethics, psychological plays, romantic plays, home life, folk drama, social satires, the eternal triangle,

politics, symbolistic plays, etc., is a list of books on the modern drama grouped under: Dramatic criticism; play writing; American, Continental, British, Irish Dramatists, acting play production, etc.

"Each note on a long play opens with a characterizing adjective, designates the nationality of the author and indicates the type of play." Quite apart from their usefulness in the illuminating notes in this most readable of lists, these adjectives will win their way into the regard of all whose business it is to prepare book notes especially in the field of literature. Here, for example, are the characterizations of the plays dealing with social ethics: Noteworthy; sincere; satirical; well-balanced; gripping; realistic; uncompromising; moral; purposeful; able; brilliant; powerful; ingenious; bitter. Historical and biographical plays offer: Amusing, noble, episodic, heroic, dashing, vivid, romantic, colossal, panoramic, military, romantic, climactic, impressive, patriotic. (119p., paper, 75c.; cloth, \$1.25).

Workers Emancipation Series

The American Fund for Public Service, generally known as the Garland Fund, has voted to finance the publication of a series of standard works of literature and education in the service of the movement for worker's emancipation. The series is to contain two hundred titles, and will be sold at the lowest possible prices. Upton Sinclair is to be the editor of the series, and an advisory editorial board of twenty or thirty persons will be appointed. All points of view in the working-class movement are to be represented, and the series will include fiction poetry, drama, history, philosophy, politics, economics, finance. It will include translations from works in all foreign languages, and Upton Sinclair issues from his home in Pasadena, California, a request that those who are interested in the proposed series will contribute suggestions as to the works to be included.

Career Bulletins

A series of about a score of "career bulletins" some consisting of papers prepared specially for the Council, some reprinted from publications such as *Science*, *School and Society*, *Bulletin of Engineering Education*, etc., has been published by the National Research Council, Washington, D. C. for free distribution, with a view to explaining to university students opportunities open for scholarly careers in various fields and the qualifications necessary for such careers.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

MAY 15, 1925



A CHIEF boon from our national library to the entire library system is the Library of Congress card, which in 28 years since the start in 1898 has covered 950,000 titles, an average of 34,000 production a year. Previous to this undertaking, many endeavors and calculations, as from the office of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, to provide such a co-operative system for the libraries of the country were made, but the cost always proved prohibitive. The solution was found when the Library of Congress, printing cards for its own catalog, adopted the plan of printing duplicates in adequate number to supply the depository libraries gratis and other libraries practically at duplicating cost. This service, without adding appreciably to the expenses of the Government, has saved immense sums in total for the libraries of the country. Today no less than three thousand libraries and five hundred individuals and firms are availing themselves of this convenience and economy, and union catalogs or separate files of these cards are maintained in regional or other leading libraries. As local libraries grow in importance there is fresh demand for an approximately complete set of the L. C. cards, and the Toronto Public Library has recently applied for the set, thus placing at the disposal of our Canadian brethren a complete file. The expense of selecting and collating a single set from the stock, now numbering seventy million cards, is, for labor alone, approximately \$950. Libraries to which sets are now assigned are required to pay this net labor cost, but such expenditure represents many thousands of dollars of safe investment in definitely useful equipment. The L. C. cards are also appreciated internationally, for almost a hundred libraries other than those in this country and Canada are subscribers. Unfortunately as the receipts from these cards must be covered directly into the Treasury Department, the Library of Congress does not seem to get the benefit of these returns and the appropriation by Congress for the library is thus unduly exaggerated.

IT is gratifying that the American Library Association has undertaken to publish the new edition of Mr. H. G. T. Cannons' Bibliography of Library Economy and that its editorial

force is now engaged on the necessary assimilation and revision of the extended manuscript which Mr. Cannons has sent to the Chicago headquarters. Not enough subscriptions have yet been received to cover probable cost of manufacture, but it is very proper that the A. L. A. from its general publication funds should take the risk of putting into the service of all libraries so valuable a work. As may be seen from the 1910 volume, which covered 448 pages, this index, which is to include the years from 1876 to 1920, furnishes a working guide to the more important articles in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, as well as in other periodicals and library material in the English language, and the new volume will scarcely be less than double the size of the edition of 1910. The arrangement by classes of subjects may be criticized, but it has its points of advantage. In response to the many inquiries as to whether the LIBRARY JOURNAL will itself print an index for its fifty volumes, as was done for the first twenty-two volumes in 1897, we may say that the new volume from Mr. Cannons' workshop will make this unnecessary, and a detailed index on the plan of the earlier one for the LIBRARY JOURNAL alone would be costly beyond any likelihood of support. We plan, however, to begin with the fifty-first volume for 1926 the inclusion, monthly or quarterly, of a record of library literature supplementing Mr. Cannons' extended volume, which may be cumulated from year to year and serve the purpose of an annual supplement. Meantime American and English libraries should not be slow to come forward in support of the A. L. A. enterprise and assure an adequate edition at a reasonable price. A chronic difficulty of library publications is that the supposed demand for them often fails of realization in actual support.

THE burning of the City Hall at Birmingham (Ala.), where the Public Library was still housed pending the erection of the new library building for which provision had recently been made, is a serious misfortune both for the library and the municipality. The library loss of \$200,000 was but half covered by insurance, and the catalogs and shelf-lists, which were partially saved, were valuable beyond money estimate. In all libraries where there is fire

hazard, the catalogs and shelf-lists should, so far as practicable, be kept in such shape as to be removable at the earliest moment, for it is impossible to over-estimate the demoralization of a library when both its books and these records are destroyed. Mr. Josselyn's energy will doubtless be equal to the task of restocking and re-equipping the library and the enterprising city of Birmingham is sure to give hearty and adequate support. Before the fire was extinguished indeed, the *Birmingham News* and the local bookshops had already started a movement for restocking, and it will be encouraging

to the library and municipal authorities if libraries thruout the country will send from their duplicates books which should be useful for this one. Mr. Josselyn may be looked to for useful disposition of surplus copies for the benefit of other southern libraries where titles reach him in duplicate. A similar misfortune has happened to Clemson College Agricultural Experiment Library, and its librarian will be grateful for any gifts of books, and more especially agricultural periodicals as the circumstances of the college make it more difficult than at Birmingham to accomplish replacements.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Ontario Library Association held in Toronto on Easter Monday and Tuesday, was perhaps the best meeting in the history of the Association. Around two main topics the addresses centred. On Monday adult education was considered from some half-dozen points of view. W. J. Dunlop, director of University Extension at the University of Toronto, discussed adult education through organized groups, from the point of view of university extension, revealing a range of activity on the part of the university not realized by the outside public. Dorothy Thompson of the Department of Education, Library Branch, in "Adult Education of the Individual," noted the purpose and methods of the library in bringing adult education to the reader. Jessie Rorke of the Toronto Library, noted a series of concrete experiences thru which her branch library had touched a steadily widening circle of patrons. The presidential address of Mr. G. W. Rudlen, headmaster of the High School at Arncliffe, dealt with "Education in a Changing World." After noting how, thru invention and discovery, the world was rapidly becoming extremely complicated, Mr. Rudlen dealt with certain phases such as vocational education, the training for profitable use of leisure time, and preparation for citizenship. For these and other phases of the demand of the modern world, the library and the school must give a co-operative service.

H. H. B. Meyer, of the Library of Congress, president of the American Library Association, followed up this same idea in a thoughtful address presenting an ideal of the public library at once exalted and practicable. Lieut. Col. J. M. Mitchell, secretary, the Carnegie United

Kingdom Trust, Dunfermline, Scotland, charmed the Association with a very delightful sketch of what the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust was doing in the Old World, noting to how large an extent their work was developing this adult education.

Tuesday morning devoted to "the small library: its past, its present and its future." Rev. Edward F. McL. Smith told the story of the Alliston Library, where the women of the town had saved the situation. H. Cockburn noted what the modern library and business methods had done for the Weston Library, and J. A. Short, in his account of the Swansea Library, told of the first school section free library established in the province.

The round tables of the afternoon were very profitable: Lillian H. Smith, of Toronto, had charge of children's work; Earl Browning, of Hamilton, and Marjorie Jarvis, of Toronto, represented book selection, and L. MacBeth took charge of poster making.

Two interesting brief addresses were given, one by Fred Landon, of the University of Western Ontario, who spoke in honour of the Thomas D'Arcy McGee centenary, and the other by Dr. William Tytler, of Guelph, who spoke very wittily in honour of the Anniversary occasion as one of the Originals who were present at the first session of the Association.

The attendance was large and representative, a program of high quality was carried out according to schedule and even the weather co-operated to make this a delightful occasion. An international character was lent by the presence of the president of the A. L. A., and the party from Scotland, consisting of Col. and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Robert Burns, secretary of the Dunfermline Carnegie Trust. The ex-

hibits of the publishers and supply firms was also international, because in addition to the Canadian firms there were representatives from Gaylord Brothers of Syracuse, and the Chivers Bookbinding Company, Brooklyn.

To commemorate further the anniversary occasion of the twenty-fifth meeting, the Association is issuing a volume containing the history of the Association during these years.

Officers for the coming year are: President, E. A. Hardy, 124 Duplex Avenue, Toronto, for many years secretary of the Association; Vice-presidents, Fred Landon, of the University of Western Ontario, and Lillian H. Smith, of the Toronto Public Library.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

AT the Rhode Island Library Association's twenty-second annual meeting, in the Knight Memorial Library, on April 24, Mrs. May Hall James, speaking on how to measure library service, advised making a study of the town under four heads: geographic, economic, educational, and social, and bringing to bear on this information as to revenue, building, and book stock available. Following, Eva S. Gardner, librarian of the Providence Business Branch, brought vividly before the meeting the spirit of that branch, the slogan of which is, "What they want, when they want it, and where they want it." Mrs. Congdon reported the year's library progress, Mr. Blessing spoke on bulletin advertising, and Dallas Lore Sharp brought the meeting to a splendid climax with his talk on "a bookless boyhood," describing the longings of a boy for a book of which he is totally ignorant. Professor Sharp separated the work of a library into four main divisions: the training of people to buy books, the training of people to read books, "rather than sponge on them," the creating a love of books, and lastly, stimulating the writing of books.

Officers for the coming year are: President, Clarence E. Sherman, Providence; vice-presidents, May V. Crenshaw, Newport, and Mary E. Makepeace, R. I. College of Education; secretary, Edna Thayer, Providence.

EDNA THAYER, *Recording Secretary*.

NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY CONFERENCE

THE Massachusetts Library Club and the other New England state library associations whose meeting at the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., during the week of June 22, has already been announced, have arranged the following program:

Monday Evening

In charge of the Massachusetts Library Club. Greetings from Governor Fuller followed by an address by the Hon. Albert J. Beveridge of Indianapolis; "The Making of a Book."

Tuesday

Morning program in charge of the Vermont L. A. Subject, "County Libraries." Addresses by: Mrs. H. S. Morse of Bennington, "Library Prophecy"; Mrs. H. Roy Allen of North Hero, "An experiment in co-operative book-buying"; Mildred C. Cook of the Library Department, "To the Small Towns with the Book Wagon"; Jasper Wright of Bellow Academy, Fairfax, "Are County Libraries Suited to New England?"

Afternoon. Hospital library meeting in charge of E. Kathleen Jones; address by Capt. Norman J. Blackwood on "The Effect of the Library on the Morale of the Hospital," followed by ten minutes talk on hospital administration; Catalogers round table, under the auspices of the Boston Group of Catalogers and Classifiers, Mrs. F. R. Coe, chairman. Address by Ethel D. Roberts of Wellesley on "A Visit to European Libraries." Round table on work with children, Agnes C. Cook, chairman. Address by McGregor Jenkins of the *Atlantic Monthly*, on "The Friendliness of Books."

Wednesday

Morning program in charge of the Connecticut L. A., Edna Wilder presiding. Brief business meeting at 9. At 9:30 address by Mrs. Marguerite Wilkinson, on "Women Who are Poets"; address by Hamilton Holt, on "Editing a Magazine."

Afternoon. Program in charge of New Hampshire Association. Addresses by Prof. Ambrose White Vernon of Dartmouth College on "The Current Interest in Biography"; and by J. Randolph Coolidge of Squam Lake, N. H., on "Building the Small Library for Beauty and Convenience."

Evening program in charge of Rhode Island Association, Francis K. W. Drury, presiding. Address by Mrs. Maud Howe Elliott, followed by a short play presented by members of the Association.

Thursday

Morning program in charge of the Maine Association. Addresses by Prof. William H. Hartshorn of Bates College; Martha S. Bartlett, librarian of the Gardiner Public Library on "Thru the Library Door"; A. L. T. Cummings, secretary of the Maine Chamber of Commerce, on "Kate Douglas Wiggin as a Summer Neighbor."

Afternoon. Meeting for Trustees of Libraries. Mr. Coolidge presiding. Automobile trips.

Evening. Good times in the hotel and on the beach; in charge of Edna Phillips of the Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries.

Friday

Morning program in charge of the Massachusetts Library Club, Edward H. Redstone, presiding. Round table on Adult Education, in charge of C. F. D. Belden; address by Matthew S. Dudgeon, chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Adult Education. Probable meeting of the New England School Libraries Association.

Afternoon. Meeting of the New England Library Commission Workers, Frances Hobart, chairman. New England College Librarians. Round table in the interest of Prison Library Service; Mrs. Belle Holcomb Johnson of the Connecticut Library Committee, chairman.

Evening. Joint meeting with the Special Library Association, in charge of George W. Lee and Frank W. Chase. Subject: The use of everyday English. Addresses by Prof. Roy Davis of Boston University College of Business Administration, and Dr. Francis Ball of Ginn & Co.

Saturday

An all day excursion to neighboring libraries. Invitation from Mr. Wells to visit his new bindery at Waltham and be his guests there at luncheon.

IN THE LIBRARY WORLD

VERMONT

The thirtieth anniversary of the Vermont Public Library Commission, since 1923 the Free Public Library Department of the Vermont State Board of Education, is marked by the publication of its fifteenth biennial report, covering the period from July 1, 1922, to July 1, 1924. The commission was the fifth to be established in the United States, the first dating only from 1890. Work has proceeded much as usual since the reorganization, except that in 1923 a cut in appropriation made it impossible to grant the usual aid in maintenance to an approved list of libraries. The Traveling Library Department loaned 177 general traveling libraries, 929 school libraries, and other collections bringing the total book and picture collections loaned to 3,627, a gain of 1192 over the previous biennium. In all 37,505 books were loaned. Thru the Dodge book-wagon, the gift of the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs, which began its trips in May 1922, more libraries were visited than was possible in 1920-1922. An account of new buildings opened and of the interesting Grand Isle County Inter-Library Loan Association appeared in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January 15 (p. 94).

NEW YORK

The offices of the Brooklyn Public Library have been moved from 26 Brevoort Place to 280 Washington Avenue.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The corner-stone of the new John K. Mullin Memorial Library at the Catholic University was laid last month by Cardinal Hayes of New York. The new building, which will provide for about a million volumes, is to be of Kentucky limestone and will stand at the highest point of the University Campus.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sixty-two public libraries are now operating in South Dakota. When the state library commission was organized in 1913 public libraries were few and scattering and only one public library in the state had a trained librarian. No town in the state of more than 2,000 population is now without a library; only two between 1,500 and 2,000; and eleven between 1,000 and 1,500. While many of the libraries are small and none too well supported, they show improvement from year to year. On the other hand, the state is predominantly rural, and twenty-three counties are without libraries and sixty per cent

of the population without library service except for the loans made by the commission. The limit in municipal library organization has nearly been reached. County libraries are looked to as the solution of the problem. Last year Hyde County library, established in 1920, loaned 15,414 books, or about five per capita of the population of the county; Tripp County library, established in 1921, has more than half of the people of the county enrolled as borrowers and last year circulated 32,038 books. Potter County appropriated \$4,500 for the new county library which opened last November. The inertia of the commissioners in three counties in which forty per cent of the legal voters in each case signed the petitions for a county library as required by law has prevented the addition of these counties to the list, altho the law makes the establishment of a library mandatory upon petition. The secretary of the commission reports that in the biennial period ending June 30, 1924, 672 traveling libraries were loaned with a total circulation of 40,676 books. The appropriation for the two years' work was \$18,850, of which \$10,387 was spent in salaries and \$3,721 for books.

WASHINGTON

The Register of Graduates 1913-1924 with Historical Sketch and Statistics of the University of Washington Library School, issued as publication no. 3 by the Alumni Association of the School, records the movements of the one hundred and sixty-three graduates of this school, of whom six are men and one hundred and fifty-seven women. Forty-eight of the women have married since graduation, only six of them returning to work after marriage, seven are for the time being not employed, and seven are in other lines of service. The total number now engaged in library service is one hundred and five, ninety-two of whom are in Washington, seventeen in Oregon, ten in New York, seven in California, six in British Columbia, and six in Ohio, the remainder, from one to four, being scattered in fourteen other states. By position in library service graduates rank as librarian, thirty-two; department heads, four; branch librarians and children's librarians, four each; high school librarians, fourteen; assistants, forty-one. Ninety-nine salaries reported give an average of \$1,639, the minimum of \$1,200 (eight persons) while forty-five received between \$1,500 and \$2,000 and fifteen \$2,000 or upwards.

AMONG LIBRARIANS

ADAMS, Florence, who is to give the course in school library work at the Columbia University Summer School is librarian of the Newtown High School at Elmhurst, L. I., not a branch librarian in the New York Public Library as recently reported in the JOURNAL.

BAY, J. Christian, who completed his twentieth year in the service of the John Crerar Library on April 30, sailed for Europe on that date, intending to visit the Scandinavian countries, England and Northern Germany. Mr. Bay will pursue bibliographical and historical research under the auspices of the National Research Council and the American Scandinavian Foundation, and also will purchase books for several libraries and private collectors in the West.

BROWN, Karl, 1925 New York State, joins the staff of the New York Public Library in June as assistant at the main reading room and information desk.

CLARKE, Hazel C., 1914 Western Reserve, appointed librarian of the Ocean City (N. J.) Public Library.

COLLINS, Elizabeth, is to be law librarian for the University of Cincinnati beginning work there August 1. Miss Collins who has been connected with the Ohio Humane Society has an LL.B. from the Cincinnati Law School and Ph.D. from Dennison University.

CURTISS, Clara L., 1925-26 New York State, has been appointed acting librarian of the City Normal School Library of Rochester, N. Y.

FRINK, Ella B., first assistant in the Monterey County Public Library, appointed librarian of the Siskiyou County Library, succeeding Thelma Brackett who resigned two months ago and plans to rest for some months before returning to work.

FULLERTON, Caroline Q., since 1905 connected with the Louisville (Ky.) Public Library and organizer and since 1910 head of the Reference Department, died April 14 after one day's illness.

HAWKS, Blanche L., 1907-08 New York State, has resigned as librarian of the Southwest Texas State Normal School at San Marcos to accept the librarianship of the Woman's College at Chickasha, Okla.

MCCLURE, Jane E. B., who graduates from the Atlanta Library School in June is to become children's librarian at the Savannah Public Library June 15th.

PORTER, Mrs. Cora Case, 1923-24 Illinois, has resigned from the Los Angeles Public Library to become librarian of the Public Library, Muskogee, Okla.

REED, Ethel, 1925-26 New York State, has been appointed branch librarian at Youngstown, Ohio.

SCHNACKE, Mahlon K. A., 1925 New York State, will go to the New York Public Library at the close of the school year as assistant in the Preparation Division.

SPENCER, Robinson, 1916-1918 University of Illinois, who was formerly cataloger, University of Nebraska, and chief cataloger, University of Washington, has been appointed chief classifier, Iowa State College Library, Ames, Iowa.

WRIGHT, John Kirkland, librarian of the American Geographical Society New York, is the author of "The Geographical Lore of the Time of the Crusades," a study in the history of mediæval science and tradition in Western Europe, which is published by the Society as the fifteenth of its Research Series. (New York: The Society. \$5).

THE OPEN ROUND TABLE

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To the Editor of the Library Journal:
Sir:

Not infrequently one hears the remark: "How desirable it would be for the librarians to hold a conference in the national capital." The attractions are sufficiently obvious. Especially is this true for librarians of agricultural and scientific collections; altho all depository librarians would have almost an equal interest in a meeting held in Washington—they could become acquainted with the sources of supply of depository material.

If the A. L. A. does not feel disposed to hold a general session in Washington, and the summer climate would almost forbid such a meeting, still it might be altogether feasible for a meeting of the section of agricultural librarians to be arranged to which could be invited such other librarians, especially from technical and scientific libraries, as might be interested. I send this with the thought that the question might be discussed by the agricultural section at the Seattle meeting.

A meeting during the college term time seems impossible, but a mid-winter meeting in Washington would be almost as feasible as the regular mid-winter meetings in Chicago.

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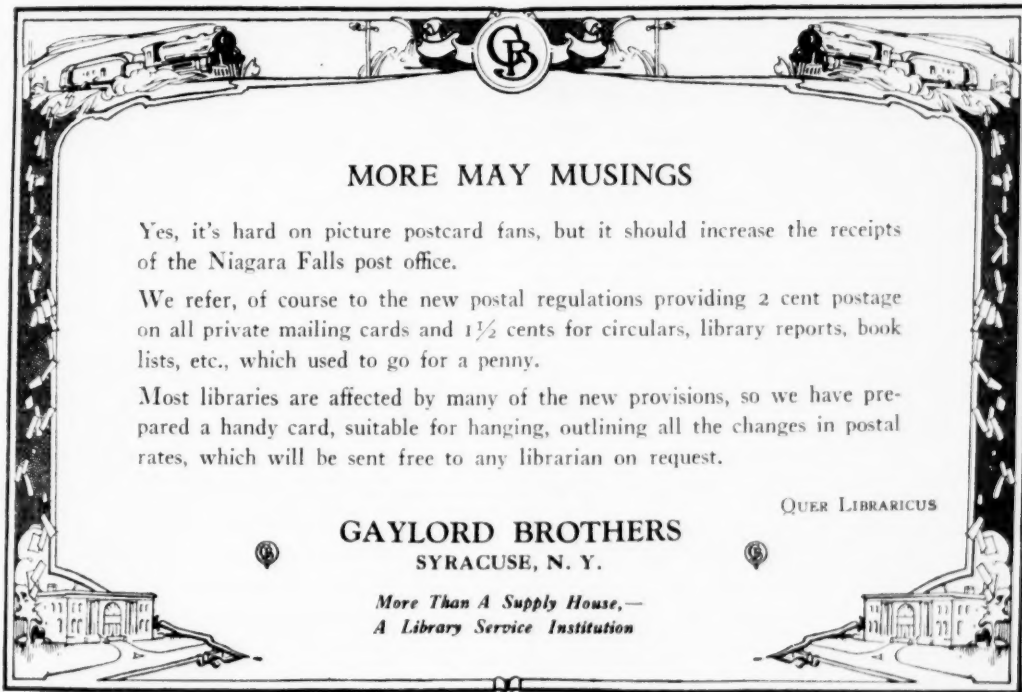
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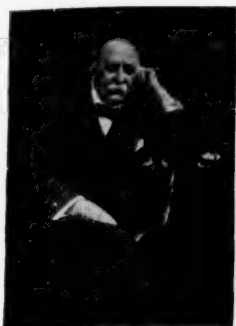
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June 3-4. At Sault Ste Marie, Mich. Upper Peninsula Library Association.

June 15-20. At Vassar College, Poughkeepsie. New York Library Association's thirty-fifth annual conference. The new guest house and one or more of the dormitories will be available for the use of delegates.

June 22-27. At the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass. Massachusetts Library Club's meeting in which the other five New England states have planned to co-operate.

June 23-25. At the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass. Annual convention of the Special Libraries Association, in co-operation with the Massachusetts Library Club and other New England Associations.

June 23. At the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass. Boston Regional Group of Catalogers and Classifiers will hold a special meeting during the sessions of the Massachusetts Library Club to which all eastern catalogers are invited. Flora E. Wise, of Wellesley College, secretary.

June 29-July 1. At Eureka and Arcata, Humboldt County, California Library Association. June 30 will be spent at Arcata.

July 6-11. At Seattle, Wash. Forty-sixth annual conference of the A. L. A. and affiliated organizations.

July 29-August 1. At Chautauque, New York. Chautauque Library Conference.

Sept. 14-19. In Birmingham, England. Annual conference of the Library Association.

October 1-3. At Pueblo. Joint meeting of the Colorado and New Mexico Library Association.

October 6-7. At La Crosse. Meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association.

October 8-10. At Libby, Lincoln County. Montana Library Association.

October 13-15. At Rockford. Illinois Library Association.

October 14-16. At Sioux City, Iowa. Regional A. L. A. meeting in which the library associations of Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri will join.

Oct. 20-23. At Fort Wayne. Joint meeting of the Indiana, Michigan and Ohio Library Associations.

October. Exact date to be announced later. Regional meeting of the American Library Association at Sioux City under the auspices of the library associations of Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa.

October. Exact date later. At Winchester, Va. Virginia Library Association.

The next meeting of the North Carolina Library Association will be held in the fall at Chapel Hill. Exact dates will be announced later.

There will be no regular meeting this year of the Pacific Northwestern Library Association on account of the Western meeting of the American Library Association. The P. N. L. A. will have a short business session at Seattle.

Oct. 30. At Wheeling. West Virginia Library Association. Ora Peters, State Normal School Library, Athens, secretary.

CATALOGS RECEIVED

Schrift-, Buch- und Bibliothekswesen Bibliographie. Bücher-Katalog 401. Leipzig: Otto Harrassowitz. 85p.

Gaylord Brothers. The Green Book of Methods of Organizing County Library Service. Syracuse, N. Y.: Gaylord Brothers. 32p. illus.

—Library Supplies. The 1925 Catalog. 96p. illus. (Cat. no. 28.)

The Heinn, A. E., Loose-leaf Catalog Binder. The Style B. The Perfection. Milwaukee, Wis.: The Heinn Co. illus.

H. Berkelouw. Catalogus 22. Rotterdam, Holland: H. Berkelouw. 36p.

Davenport-Taylor Mfg. Co. Folder A. Letter signs: building directories; calendars, etc. Chicago, Ill.: Davenport-Taylor Co., illus.

Books relating to New York; mostly scarce and out of print. Cleveland, Ohio: Arthur H. Clark Co. 18p. (No. S 3930.)

Orientalia: Neuerscheinungen, Neuerwerbungen. Hannover, Germany: Orient-Buchhandlung Heinz Lafaire K.-G. 24p. 24p. (Cat. no. 32.)

Terrell's Cabinets and Wardrobes. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Terrell's Equipment Co. folder, illus. (No. C-17.)

A "Clemco-Guide." The Center Drop Typewriter Desk De Luxe. Chicago, Ill.: The Clemetsen Co. folder, illus.

Hale Chairs. New York: Hale Desk Co. 48p. illus. (Cat. no. 53.)

Lupton Steel Windows for residences, schools, offices, etc. Phila.: David Lupton's Sons Co. 24p. illus.

Wilson's Letter Products: Paper letters and figures, labels, etc. Chicago, Ill., The Tablet & Ticket Co. 56pp. illus.

Grafton & Co. Catalog No. 45, 1925. Books on many subjects, including a collection on interesting trades and industries, a number of editions of Greek classics and many English and foreign volumes of a miscellaneous character. London, England. Grafton & Co. 34pp.

Japanese color prints: The noted collection formed by Mrs. Tony Shaus-Negbauer. Berlin W. 8: Heinrich Tiedemann. 40p. The collection which comprises 529 items is to be sold undivided is offered in the United States for \$110,000.

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XXXIII^E BIBLIOGRAPHIE GEOGRAPHIQUE 1923

The world's foremost bibliography of current geographical literature. The references are to publications of scientific value only and are accompanied by signed critiques by professional geographers. Much of the material on America has been contributed by the American Geographical Society. Published by the Association de Géographes Français and sold in the United States and Canada by the American Geographical Society, Broadway at 156th Street, New York. Price, \$1.50.

VERNON'S ANNOTATED

TEXAS STATUTES

Vernon's Annotated Texas Statutes, 1925. Civil and Criminal, estimated 14 volumes at \$10.00 per volume. All in excess of 14 vols. to be free to advance subscribers, publication to begin about October, 1925. Vernon Law Book Co., Kansas City, Mo.

CHEMISTRY, ORGANIC, INORGANIC

By Charles L. Bloxam, revised by Arthur G. Bloxam, F.I.C., and S. T. Lewis, D.Sc., F.I.C. (England).

This work is widely used as a complete reference volume on chemistry. It is written in easy style and gives simple explanations of all the laws and processes in modern practice. Experiments are provided throughout the work. In reviewing the book, the Journal American Chemical Society, says: "It is refreshing to observe its mass of most interesting facts—real chemical information." 11th edition. 310 illustrations. Cloth, \$9.00, postpaid. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS DESIGN

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Associate Professor of Applied Arts, University of Wisconsin

A practical guide for designing in wood, clay and metals. It covers structural design, contour design and applied design covering articles in these mediums. The author has used the best examples of architectural design as the basis for industrial design. Color and relation to industrial arts design is fully covered from the standpoint of the wood finisher and the worker in art metal. By means of colored charts and formulas the color harmony that should exist between furniture, trim, side walls and ceilings is well brought out. Price \$4.00. The Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Ill.

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH

By 33 Contributors. Edited by George M. Kober, M.D., LL.D., Washington, D. C. and Emory R. Hayhurst, M.D., Ph.D., Columbus, Ohio

An authoritative, practical treatise by 33 contributors of eminence in various fields of public health and welfare. It gives general principles of maintaining health in industry; vocational hygiene of various industries; specific occupational diseases; systemic occupational diseases; industrial health administration, etc. Illustrated. Cloth, \$15, postpaid. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.

KITECRAFT AND KITE TOURNAMENTS

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Assistant Supervisor of Manual Training, Los Angeles, Calif.

An authoritative and comprehensive treatment of kitecraft. This book deals with the construction and flying of all kinds of kites, and the making and using of kite accessories. Also aeroplanes, gliders, propellers, motors, etc. Four chapters are devoted to presenting a detailed description of kite-flying tournaments. Contains a bibliography of kites. 144 pages; 267 illustrations. Price, \$1.75. The Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Ill.

SEWING MACHINES

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PARIS-THÉÂTRE CONTEMPORAIN

Rôle prépondérant des scènes d'avant-garde depuis Trente ans. By L. Delpit, Prof. of French Lit., Smith College

Paris: Champion.—Northampton, Mass., Smith College, 1925. VII—135 pages.

Comprehensive and accurate picture of the present-day French Stage

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By William H. Rossi and Diana I. Powers-Rossi, the latter of the Economics Division of N. Y. Public Library

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